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November 22, 2002

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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION  
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

**BY HAND DELIVERY**

Marlene H. Dortch, Esquire

Secretary

Federal Communications Commission

445 12th Street, S.W., Room TW-B204

Washington, D.C. 20554

Re: MM Docket No. 02-315  
RM-10566  
Moscow, Idaho

Dear Ms. Dortch:

Transmitted herewith, on behalf of State Board of Education, State of Idaho, licensee of noncommercial educational television station KUID-TV, and permittee of noncommercial educational digital television station KUID-DT, both Moscow, Idaho, are an original and four copies of its "Comments" in the above-referenced proceeding.

Should any questions arise concerning this matter, please communicate with this office.

Very truly yours,



Anne Goodwin Crump

Counsel for State Board of Education,  
State of Idaho

Enclosures

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BEFORE THE

**Federal Communications Commission**

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20554

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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION  
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

In the Matter of	)	
	)	
Amendment of Section 73.606(b),	)	MM Docket No. 02-315
Table of Allotments,	)	RM-10566
Television Broadcast Stations, and	)	
Amendment of Section 73.622(b),	)	
Table of Allotments,	)	
Digital Television Broadcast Stations.	)	
(Moscow, Idaho)	)	

Directed to: Chief, Video Division

**COMMENTS**

State Board of Education, State of Idaho, which operates under the name of Idaho Public Television ("Idaho PTV"), and is licensee of noncommercial educational television station KUID-TV and permittee of noncommercial educational digital television station KUID-DT, both Moscow, Idaho, hereby respectfully submits its Comments in response to the Commission's *Notice of Proposed Rule Making*, DA 02-2504, released October 9, 2002 ("*NPRM*"), in the instant proceeding, which proposes to amend Section 73.606(b) of its Rules, the Television Table of Allotments, to substitute Channel \*35 for Channel \*12 at Moscow, Idaho, and to amend Section 73.622(b) of its rules, the Digital Television ("DTV") Table of Allotments, to substitute Channel \*12 for Channel \*35, also at Moscow. With respect thereto, the following is stated:

1. The *NPRM* in this proceeding was adopted in response to the Petition for Rule Making submitted by Idaho PTV in which it requested the exchange of the analog and digital channels

assigned to KUID-TV and KUID-DT. In essence, Idaho PTV is proposing to make an early change to the channel it plans to use as its permanent DTV channel after DTV transition by currently making an exchange of its analog and DTV channels. Idaho PTV hereby reiterates its support for and intent to go forward with this proposal.

2. As set forth in the Engineering Statement included with Idaho PTV's Petition for Rule Making, the proposed modified allotments are in compliance with the Commission's technical rules and policies. Furthermore, the proposed channel exchange would serve the public interest in a number of ways. First, it would result in an enormous cost savings for Idaho PTV. Idaho PTV has determined, pursuant to the policies outlined by the Commission, that it will select Channel 12 as its final DTV channel for operations after completion of the DTV transition. Idaho PTV has made this selection in part because of technical advantages resulting in a larger service area. Clearly, this choice serves the public interest by providing increased over-the-air DTV service to the public. In addition, the choice of Channel 12 as the final DTV channel will result in substantial operational savings, including tremendous cost savings for electric power, as outlined in Idaho PTV's Petition for Rule Making. Finally, the proposed channel exchange will allow Idaho PTV to build its DTV facilities only once, rather than twice. Without the proposed channel exchange, Idaho PTV first would need to build a temporary facility on Channel 35, and later would need to build its final DTV facility on Channel 12. Eliminating the need for such duplicative construction will conserve the scarce resources available to Idaho PTV as a noncommercial educational broadcaster.

3. Further, the channel exchange would assist in the promotion of the DTV transition. Because the community of Moscow is located in a relatively remote area surrounded by

mountains, the operation of KUID-DT on Channel 12 will provide a real-world demonstration of the signal propagation characteristics of DTV in such mountainous regions. Further, Idaho PTV is, in essence, proposing to take a step which all stations will be required to make at the end of DTV transition in some form, namely that of making the transition to the final DTV channel. Thus, it would provide an early example of how that change can be carried out. At the same time, Idaho PTV will maintain analog service on Channel \*35.

4. Additionally, the provision of new DTV service in an expeditious manner on Channel 12 will encourage viewers in the area to purchase DTV receivers in order to be able to receive the enhanced programming of KUID-DT, with its revolutionary picture and sound quality. Such encouragement is particularly important in smaller television markets such as Moscow. The purchase of more DTV receivers and converters then will encourage the provision of more DTV programming in the area, thereby advancing DTV conversion. Moreover, all of these benefits will be realized without any appreciable loss in PBS service within the area.

5. If the channel exchange is approved as requested, Idaho PTV will expeditiously file implementing applications for construction permit for KUID-TV and KUID-DT. Upon grant of those applications, Idaho PTV will promptly construct facilities in accordance with its authorizations.'

WHEREFORE, the premises considered, Idaho PTV hereby respectfully requests that analog Channel \*35 be substituted for analog Channel \*12- at Moscow and that the license for


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<sup>1</sup> Indeed, Idaho PTV has already constructed and placed into operation analog facilities on Channel 35, pursuant to Special Temporary Authority granted by the Commission. Completion of construction of Channel 12 DTV facilities has been delayed by early and heavy snowfall at the transmitter site.

KUID-TV be modified accordingly, and further request that DTV Channel \*12- be substituted for DTV Channel \*35 at Moscow and that the construction permit for KUID-DT be modified accordingly.

Respectfully submitted,

STATE **BOARD** OF EDUCATION,  
STATE OF **IDAHO**

By:   
Anne Goodwin Crump

Its Attorney

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